

Appln No. 10/624,978

Amdt date September 12, 2005

Reply to Office action of June 17, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-25 are pending. Claims 1, 3, and 7-18 are amended.

Claims 1-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ditmer et al. (US 6,473,407) in view of Wang Cheng et al. (US 5,537,467). Applicants submit that all of the claims currently pending in this application are patentably distinguishable over the cited references, and reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Amended independent claim 1 includes the limitations of "a rule creator module for creating patterns of relational structure for the schema to be detected in the database," "a monitor module for monitoring the interaction of the software application with the database, wherein the monitor module comprises means for profiling the interaction of the software application with the database and means for extracting SQL queries for building test suits," and "a verification module for verifying that the schema of the database adheres to the created patterns of relational structure, responsive to the monitored interaction of the software application with the database." None of the cited references, alone or in combination, teach or suggest the above limitations.

Ditmer describes a Web-based fault and alarm management tool that enables customers to monitor and analyze the performance of their voice and data network via a GUI. "For determining the user's event monitor service options, the GUI client application requests and retrieves user profiles including the user entitlements from an event monitor customer

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database populated by a periodic feed (e.g., on a daily basis)." (Col. 16, lines 60-63, cited by the Office action, underlining added.).

Furthermore, FIG. 9 of Ditmer depicts a high level logic flowchart for the operation of the tool. A SQL statement is forwarded to a SQL server 406. "The SQL statement identifies to SQL server 406 the particular stored procedure to be activated to obtain the event view specified by the SQL statement. The SQL server 406 then executes the stored procedure and builds a report of event data specified by the event view, as shown in step 508." (Col. 21, lines 19-24, underlining is added.). The events are then sent to the user browser, sorted and displayed. (Id., lines 26-35.)

This is not the same as "a rule creator module for creating patterns of relational structure for the schema to be detected in the database," because the events of Ditmer are not the same as "patterns of relational structure for the schema."

Additionally, Ditmer does not teach or suggest "profiling the interaction of the software application with the database and means for extracting SQL queries for building test suits," and "a verification module for verifying that the schema of the database adheres to the created patterns of relational structure, responsive to the monitored interaction of the software application with the database."

Likewise, Cheng describes a distributed service management system for providing personal communication services involving multiple service providers, such as call forwarding. Applicants are unable to find any disclosure in Cheng teaching or

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suggesting the limitations of "profiling the interaction of the software application with the database and means for extracting SQL queries for building test suits," and "a verification module for verifying that the schema of the database adheres to the created patterns of relational structure, responsive to the monitored interaction of the software application with the database." As a result, Ditmer/Cheng combination does not teach or suggest the limitations of the amended independent claim 1, therefore, claim 1 is patentable over the Ditmer/Cheng combination.

Amended independent claim 8 includes the limitations of "creating patterns of relational structure for the schema for the schema to be detected in the database," "profiling the interaction of the software application with the database," and "verifying that the schema of the database adheres to the created patterns of relational structure, responsive to the profiling interaction of the software application with the database." As discussed above the Ditmer/Cheng combination does not teach or suggest the limitations and thus claim 8 is also patentable over the Ditmer/Cheng combination.

In short, independent claims 1 and 8 define a novel and unobvious invention over the cited references. Dependent claims 2-7 and 9-25 are dependent from claims 1 and 8, respectively and therefore include all the limitations of their respective independent claims and additional limitations therein. Accordingly, these claims are also allowable over the cited references, as being dependent from allowable independent claims and for the additional limitations they include therein.

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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance, and accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
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